CUT MOTION No. 6

Tank for Pattancheri

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,19,428 for Village Panchayats by Re. 1—Tank for Pattancheri, Chittur Taluk.* This is a matter which the Council has passed some years back and the Minister has promised to have the tank very soon. Last time he said that the matter was in the hands of the Diwan Peishkar and acquisition proceedings were almost over. For last three years an amount was budgetted for the tank and we have not got any tank now. No progress is made. It is to bring the matter to the notice of the Minister that I have tabled this motion.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The question is the acquisition of a particular tank recommended by the members representing the Chittur Taluk. Land acquisition was taken up by the Diwan Peishkar and unfortunately the party has put in a petition to the highest authorities and acquisition has been stayed and further enquiries are being made with the result that the work is delayed.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Are they not to have any tank?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* These are all accidents I should say. Land Acquisition petition have to be enquired into, complaints have to be looked into.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Petitions are all disposed of.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Still another to be disposed.

Cut motion, by leave, withdrawn

Demand of Rs. 4,19,428 under Village Panchayats put and carried

3. Panchayats—Cranganur—Rs. 2,286

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I move for an allotment of Rs. 2,286 under 3—Panchayats—Cranganur.

Demand put and carried

20. Education—Rs. 31,59,315

Mr. P. Sankaran Nambiar *(Director of Public Instruction):* Sir, I request that the House would be pleased to vote an allotment of Rs. 31,59,315 under 20 Education—State—for the year, 1120 M.E.

This House was pleased to sanction, according to the Revised Budget, an allotment of Rs. 25,64,900 for 1119 M.E.

The increase in the budget for 1120, now asked for, is Rs. 6,73,000.

This increase is due mainly to.—

(*i*) the large provision made for noon-feeding of school-children

(*ii*) the enhancement of the rate and scope of dearness allowance, and

(*iii*) the cost of additional establishments.

It is but to be expected that a large proportion of the allotment goes to Primary Education, which directly takes up 20 lakhs out of the total of 32 lakhs. Universal and free Basic Education is the crying need of the hour, and fortunately in our State, even in the absence of complusion, there has been such ready response from the public in the matter of educating children that our problem in many places is not want of pupils, but want of educational facilities for them. Wherever the Department is satisfied that there is real demand for primary schools, recognition is given to them, and after duly stabilising them, aid too is granted. The whole policy in this matter is being reviewed by the Code Revision Committee and Government orders passed on the basis of its recommendations will finally settle the question whether the category of Unaided, but recognised, primary schools should continue to exist hereafter. Last year (1118 M.E.) we had more than 650 schools for primary education, with 1½ lakhs of boys and girls studying in them, and their numbers have gone up still higher since.

The noon-feeding that has been started on a wide scale this year bids fair to attract still larger numbers to the schools. The sum of 4 lakhs that has been set apart for this purpose cannot possibly be spent for anything better. The effects of malnutrition on primary school children are so manifestly disastrous, that unless they are well fed materially, their intellecutal feeding will be productive of little good.

But even though all the children are brought to school, success will not be achieved unless the teaching is efficient and the teachers are reasonably contented. A more liberal scale of Dearness Allowanee to them has been provided for in the Budget. It has mounted up to 6 lakhs (while it was 3·8 lakhs only last year).

The advantages of this dearness allowance are obviously augmented by enabling the teachers, as far as exigencies of service permit, to work in their respective native places or in localities for

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